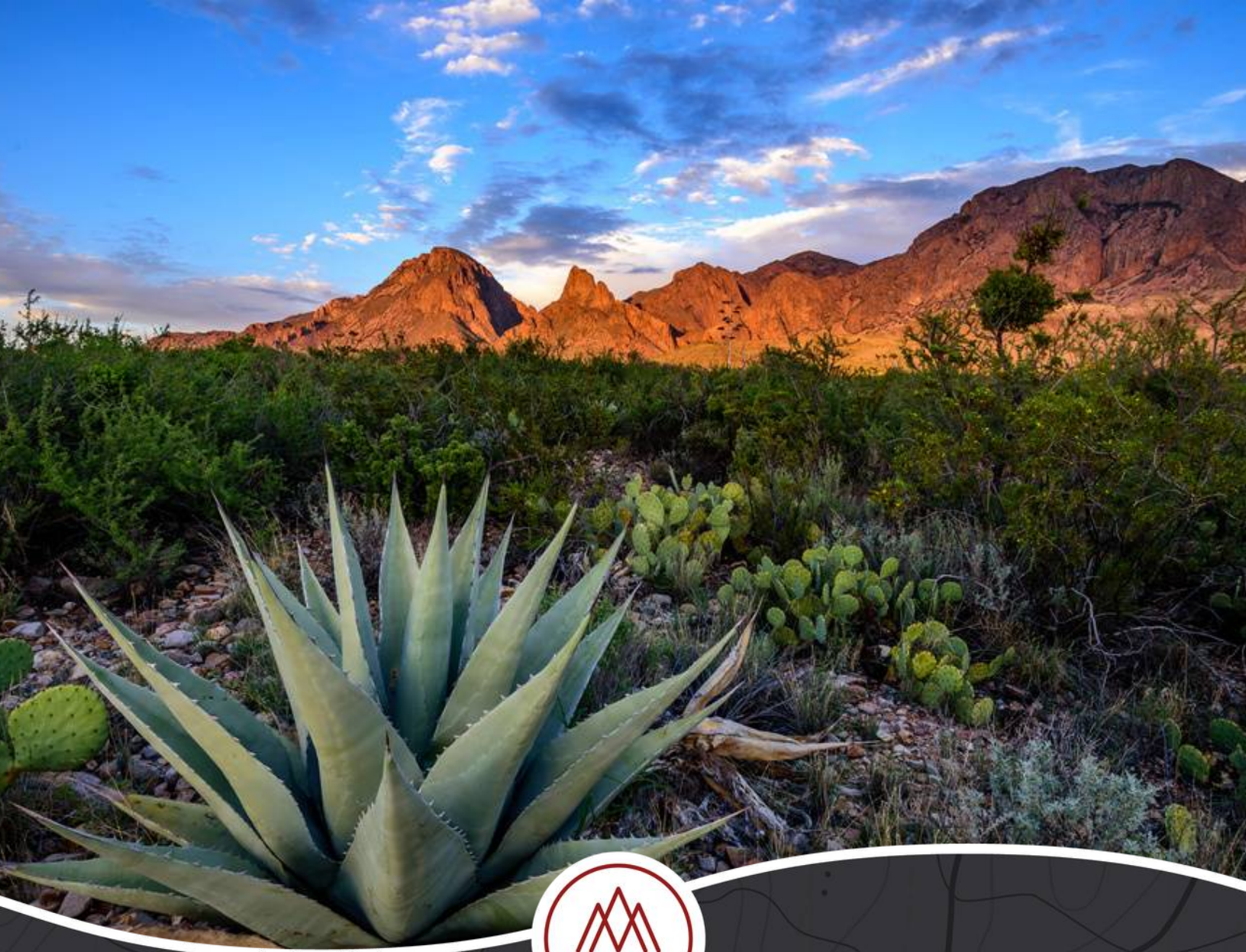




2027

Texas Big Bend National Park Hiking Summit a Sky Island & Explore Canyons of the Rio Grande

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for requesting this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

We love talking travel!

Contact info@mtsobek.com
or call **510 594 6000**.



Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

Unrivalled Expertise

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Travel Company in 2024 by Newsweek Readers' Choice Awards.

Unique Trip Design

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail—the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





Texas Big Bend National Park Hiking 2027

Vast and remote, Big Bend's unspoiled ecosystems and phenomenal topography call out to adventurers. Walk into the stark wilds of the Chihuahuan Desert, wind your way through narrow limestone ravines and box canyons, hike between towering cliffs along the mighty Rio Grande, then cross the river in a rowboat. Climb into the rich alpine forests and rugged ridges of the Chisos Mountains, a "sky island" rising from a sea of sand, and spend evenings under inky skies spangled with stars. Your expert MT Sobek guides will identify enchanting flora and fauna, geologic marvels, and ancient petroglyphs. Together you will explore the fascinating culture and history of the Texas Mountain Trail.

- Hike legendary trails including the South Rim of the Chisos and Santa Elena Canyon
- Stay in a ghost town, hike a frontier fort, and spend an afternoon in Mexico
- Discover the plants, birds, and animals of three remarkable ecosystems

6 Days

Start: El Paso, Texas

End: El Paso, Texas

Activities: Hiking, Cultural Discovery

Lodging: Comfortable Hotels

ACTIVITY LEVEL: 3

The Itinerary



Hike Fort Davis National Historic Site & Explore Marathon

Welcome to Texas! Are you ready for the ultimate Big Bend experience? Your adventure begins in El Paso on the furthest western border of the state. Your guides will pick you and your fellow adventurers up this morning from your pre-trip hotel. After an orientation meeting, drive into the Chihuahuan Desert for the day's first hike. Fort Davis is one of the best-preserved frontier forts in the Southwest. Strategically located in a stunning box canyon, it protected travelers headed for the wild west during the 1800s. Hear captivating stories of Buffalo Soldiers and frontier conflicts with the Apache and Comanche as you follow trails to sweeping views over the fort and the Davis Mountains. Continuing to the small town of Marathon on the border of the park, you'll have time for a stroll or to simply relax at the historic Gage Hotel before gathering for dinner.

ACCOMMODATION: Gage Hotel, Marathon

MEALS: Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 3.75-hour private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 2 hours/3-4.5 miles hiking with 320' elevation gain and loss



Visit Boquillas del Carmen in Mexico & Hike to Hot Springs

Follow the historic Comanche War Trail south and enter Big Bend National Park via Persimmon Gap, once a strategic passage through the Santiago Mountains. Pause at the Fossil Discovery Exhibit to uncover 120 million years of history, then take in park insights at Panther Junction Visitor Center. Continue east through the park to the banks of the Rio Grande, where you'll cross into Mexico by rowboat and hike to Boquillas del Carmen, a Mexican village known for its food and scenic location beneath the Sierra del Carmen peaks. Enjoy a traditional Mexican lunch and check out the street vendors and lively main street. Return to the US for a lesser-known hike along Tornillo Creek, ending at riverside hot springs for a soothing soak (conditions permitting). Finish the day in Big Bend National Park's Chisos Mountains at the only lodging inside the park.

ACCOMMODATION: Chisos Mountain Lodge, Big Bend National Park

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 2.5-hour private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 4 hours/5.8 miles hiking with up to 645' elevation gain and loss

Itinerary *continued*



Hike on the Epic South Rim Trail Right From Your Door

Hike into the Chisos Mountains right from your lodge on one of the most breathtaking routes in the state, the South Rim Trail. Rising majestically from the desert floor, the Chisos form an isolated “sky island” surrounded by sand—a unique contained ecosystem. This hike offers countless opportunities to observe the dramatic shift between desert scrub and alpine forest, along with spectacular volcanic geology. The views are phenomenal, stretching as far as the Sierra del Carmen Mountains of Mexico on a clear day. The ridges and folds of the Chisos fan out before you and the Chihuahuan Desert sprawls thousands of feet below. Today’s route includes miles of trail on the South Rim itself, an unforgettable experience! Return to the lodge where your guides prepare a delicious dinner. You are within the world’s largest certified Dark Sky Place, Big Bend International Dark Sky Reserve, an ideal spot for stargazing.

ACCOMMODATION: Chisos Mountain Lodge, Big Bend National Park

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: None

ACTIVITY: 7-8 hours/12 miles hiking with 2,000' elevation gain and loss (alternate hikes are possible)



Explore Window, Oak Spring & Santa Elena Canyon Trails

Hike three classic trails exploring Big Bend's mountain, desert, and river ecosystems. Begin on the iconic Window Trail, follow a dirt path through cactus and chaparral across the Chisos Mountains Basin, descending into a steep river canyon that leads to the pouroff and rock “window” framing an impressive view of the basin. Then switch over to the lesser-known Oak Spring Trail for a picturesque hike out of the basin and into the desert. Stop for lunch in a shady oasis before completing the desert trail. Take the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive to the trailhead for Santa Elena Canyon and hike between sheer limestone cliffs towering 1,500 feet above the Rio Grande and this awe-inspiring signature trail. After soaking in the sights, sounds, and smells of this spectacular canyon, head to Terlingua for dinner at the iconic Starlight Theater. Continue to remote Lajitas and settle in to your unique accommodations.

ACCOMMODATION: Lajitas Resort, Lajitas

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 2.75-hour private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 7-8 hours/9 miles hiking with 740' elevation gain and 2,100' elevation loss (alternate hikes are possible)

Itinerary *continued*



Hike the Mesa de Angulia & Admire Rock Art at Indian Head

Hike two beautiful Big Bend hidden gems today. The Mesa de Anguila sits high atop Santa Elena Canyon and marks the western border of the park. The trail—seldom explored due to its remote location—goes from desert floor to scenic overlook, providing fantastic views of the bends of the Rio Grande and serving as a brilliant reminder of how the park got its name. Return to Terlingua for a delightful picnic lunch, then head out to explore the secrets of Indian Head Mountain. This less-traveled trail takes you through the stark desert to ancient petroglyphs, pictographs, and other remnants of Big Bend's early inhabitants, hidden amid the mountain's striking volcanic formations. Return to Lajitas where you should have ample time to experience the resort before gathering for a farewell dinner at the Candelilla Cafe.

ACCOMMODATION: Lajitas Golf Resort, Lajitas

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 1.25-hour private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 3.5-5 hours/5 miles hiking with up to up to 750' elevation gain



Visit the Museum of the Big Bend, Discover Modern Art in Marfa & Depart

Saying so long to Big Bend, travel the Texas Mountain Trail to Alpine. Visit the award-winning Museum of the Big Bend for a deeper look at the desert's ancient fossils, Indigenous cultures, frontier history, and the larger-than-life landscapes of West Texas—the hallmarks of the region you just explored. Then savor one last hike, following the unique trail up Hancock Hill for terrific views of Alpine and the surrounding mountains. Then head to the town of Marfa, a place like no other. Marvel at the unlikely mix of modern art and Texan culture in the middle of the desert, sparked by minimalist artist Donald Judd. You will have the chance to see Judd's geometric works at the Chinati Foundation, and if time allows, explore more of this remarkable spot. Then it's time to head back to El Paso, your epic West Texas adventure coming to a close.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 4.75-hour private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 3 hours/4.5 miles hiking/walking with up to up to 70' elevation gain and loss

Where You'll Stay

The Gage Hotel, Marathon

Originally built in 1927, The Gage Hotel is a 14-room boutique hotel that retains much of its historic frontier character in a beautifully restored modern retreat. Each room is unique, with refined mission style and Spanish tile baths. The hotel sits on 27 acres including garden trails, a heated outdoor saltwater swimming pool, and nine hole putting green. Indulge in a massage at the spa or spend the evening stargazing.



Chisos Mountains Lodge, Big Bend N. P.

The only lodging inside Big Bend National Park, Chisos Mountains Lodge is tucked at the base of dramatic Casa Grande peak. The comfortable accommodations are designed for quiet in the wilderness, offering mountain views and hiking steps from your room, but no televisions or phones. Enjoy a warm Texas welcome and the Basin Visitor Center, grocery store, and gift-shop onsite. Free Wi-Fi is available at the visitor center and gift shop.



Lajitas Resort, Lajitas

Surrounded by the beautiful, rugged Chihuahuan Desert, Lajitas Resort transports guests back to the Old West with modern accommodations in the Badlands Hotel and Calvary Post. A border town and mining base in the early 20th century, today the resort covers 127,000 acres with an 18-hole golf course, equestrian center, two swimming pools, shooting range and spa, making it a great base for exploring the wild landscapes of West Texas.



Pricing

PRICING

For 2027 pricing, please see our [website](#) or call us at 800-974-0300.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary with taxes and gratuities
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Additional meals not noted in the daily itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Entry fees to National Parks, museums and other attractions when not accompanied by a guide, unless listed on inclusions
- Airfare, airport taxes or baggage fees for all flights
- Optional activities and spa services
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, laundry or souvenirs
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel protection program

Payments & Cancellations

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Based on Trip Cost, per person

- A \$600 deposit is due at time of reservation.
- Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Based on Total Trip Cost, per person

At the time that we receive written notice that you wish to cancel your trip, the following fees will apply (all dates are from departure date):

- From time of reservation until 95 days prior to trip departure: \$300
- 94 to 61 days prior to trip departure: 25% of Trip Cost
- 60 to 46 days prior to trip departure: 50% of Trip Cost
- 45 or less prior to trip departure: 100% of Trip Cost

Rather than paying the \$300 cancellation fee, you may choose to keep your \$600 trip deposit on account to use on a future MT Sobek trip when cancelled 125 days or more before departure.

Deposits on account must be used within two years.

To view our full Terms and Conditions, please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms